

# SPOKE

"Keeping Conestoga College Connected"

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29th Year — No. 7

Kitchener, Ontario

February 24, 1997

## Gimme' a hug, valentine



Cliff the Condor presents college president John Tibbits with a carnation and a hug Feb. 14. They were sent by a group of "not-so-secret admirers", the card said. (Photo by Ross McDermott)

## College works with universities

By Tim Kylie

A collaboration between Conestoga, the University of Waterloo, Sir Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Guelph could soon result in an easier way for students to get certified as career-development practitioners, said Conestoga's dean of academic assessment and special projects.

Sharon Kalbfleisch said the collaboration would affect Conestoga's career-development-practitioner course which is offered to students with a university degree or a college diploma.

The change would allow students to obtain a university degree and a college certificate concurrently, she said.

Additionally, courses would be available through distance education.

The program would continue to

be available both full time and part time.

Kalbfleisch said she hopes the new program will be approved by the universities' senates this spring and begin in the fall.

The four institutions have taken a three-pronged approach to funding the program, she said.

The first prong, an appeal to the college-university consortium council, did not succeed in winning money for the program, she said.

Conestoga and the area's universities applied for funding to help solve systems issues, such as how to allow students to register at two institutions, Kalbfleisch said.

It is difficult for a student to register at two institutions because of their differing registration systems, she said.

Kalbfleisch said systems issues are an obstacle to collaboration between colleges and universities.

Despite not receiving funding from the consortium, Kalbfleisch said, "The institutions are determined to go ahead."

The project has received a verbal agreement for \$75,000 in funding for each of the next two years from the Career Counselling Foundation of Canada, she said.

The foundation funds the largest conference on career counselling in Canada, she added.

The third part of the approach to funding is through agreements with the private sector, Kalbfleisch said.

Kalbfleisch said she would like to emphasize that Conestoga students would be able to apply for admittance to the program.

"I think it's a nice specialty for a social services student," Kalbfleisch said. She said it would also be appropriate for business students who are interested in human-resources management.

## Compensation guidelines okay

# No need for change to current system, says coordinator

By Ellen Douglas

Conestoga won't have to change much about how it handles workers' compensation when the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act comes into effect on July 1, says the college's health, safety and environmental coordinator.

Kim Radigan said Feb. 13 that Conestoga already does most of the things the new act requires.

For example: a news release from the Ontario Ministry of Labor states that the new legislation will require employers to cooperate in a return to work process for injured employees.

Radigan said that most proactive employers (including Conestoga) already have modified work programs for injured workers.

"If an employee can't do her regular job, duties are found for her which fit her capabilities," she said.

"Conestoga has been doing this for two years already."

"Modified work programs are always a good thing to do," said Radigan. "They help the employer and employee."

She added that the longer someone is off work, the less likely he or she is to come back.

Contrary to popular belief, said Radigan, most people want to go back to work.

"There are a lot of things an injured person can do," she said, "from repairing equipment to paper work, or course development rather than teaching."

According to Radigan, Conestoga doesn't usually have more than one workers' compensation case at a time.

Last year there were only nine cases and the longest leave from work was six days, she said.

"All of these injuries were work related."

Radigan said a huge part of the

existing workers' compensation system is devoted solely to determining whether or not an injury is work related.

She said the new Workplace Safety and Insurance Act seems as though it will be even more stringent in determining which types of injuries it will compensate.

For instance, the Ministry of Labor's news release states, "There will be no benefits for chronic mental stress and limited benefits for chronic pain that persists beyond the usual healing time for an injury."

Radigan said Conestoga offers a pain management program in these cases.

The new act will also change the way workers claim benefits, states the news release.

According to Radigan, the way the system has worked up until the present is the employer would file the claim and the employee would fill out a questionnaire.

"Under the new act," states the news release, "the worker will be required to file a claim for benefits with the board as soon as possible after the accident."

Radigan said in the past the employee didn't even have to indicate whether he or she wanted to file the claim. That was the employer's responsibility.

She said that both employees of Conestoga and students who will be going into the workforce should be aware of the changes to the act.

"They should know that if they are injured it will be their responsibility to file their own claim."

Another change to the act that will affect Conestoga employees as well as many other workers across Ontario is, according to the news release, benefit levels will be reduced from 90 to 85 per cent of the workers' net-average pre-injury earnings.

# OSAP pre-prints to be given out by the college

By Anita Filevski

OSAP pre-printed applications will not be mailed out to returning Conestoga students, said Carol Walsh, a financial aid officer at the college.

Conestoga's financial aid office is now on-line with the Ministry of Education and Training and will be distributing the OSAP pre-prints instead, Walsh said.

The pre-prints will probably be given out Feb. 25 and Feb. 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the blue cafeteria.

Pre-prints are the short form version of OSAP applications which students automatically receive after their first year of assistance. In past years, the Ministry has always mailed out the pre-prints to students' home addresses with a return envelope, Walsh said.

Each pre-print is encoded for individual students with a

bar code, said Walsh.

This means no one can photocopy, white out, or write someone else's name on the pre-print, Walsh said.

Walsh said students should hand the completed forms back promptly to the financial-aid office at Doon.

Students at the Waterloo and Guelph campuses can take their pre-printed applications to the student services building at their own campus. Those pre-prints will then be forwarded to the Doon campus.

Although the financial-aid office will be inputting the pre-prints' information onto the on-line system, students won't be able to get information regarding their OSAP applications until June 1997, Walsh said.

She said the new procedure will cause an increase in the workload for staff at the financial-aid office.

This increase probably means more staff will have to be

brought in, said Walsh.

Students whose marital status has changed or will change before the beginning of their next study period need to see a financial-aid officer, said Walsh.

This needs to be done as soon as possible because pre-prints with incorrect information cannot be used, she said.

Also, students whose program or year of program is incorrectly stated on their pre-print, or students who are continuing their studies at another college need to see someone at the financial-aid office. Staff will be available to answer questions when the forms come out, Walsh said.

All returning students should be receiving a pre-print.

Anyone who is expecting a pre-print and does not receive one, is expected to fill out the OSAP booklet, Walsh said.

New booklets for first-year students will be available in April.



# Parts manufacturer donates component to project

By Rick Kew

Conestoga's solar car, Spectre, is one step closer to completion with the donation of a programmable logic controller (PLC) by Omron Canada Inc.

Charles Seicluna, district sales manager, and Tina Theodoropoulos-Iannetta, a marketing-services specialist for Omron, presented the PLC, which has a value of approximately \$4000, to representatives from Conestoga and the solar-car team. On hand to receive the PLC were the following: Mike McClements, dean of engineering technology, trades and apprenticeships; Pat Tondreau, faculty advisor to the solar-car team; team members Shin Huang, a third-year automated manufacturing student; Evan Prentice, a first-year mechanical engineering student; Jennifer Levitt, Mauricio Shular, and Brent Clements, first-year electronics-computer-systems students.

"Although the PLC is in some ways like the brain of the solar car, it is more like a brain stem, because it operates on a single set



**SPRUCING UP SPECTRE** — On hand for the presentation of the programmable logic controller (PLC) for Spectre were, from left, solar-car team member Evan Prentice; district sales manager for Omron, Charles Seicluna; team members Shin Huang, Brent Clements (holding PLC), and Mauricio Shular; faculty advisor to team, Pat Tondreau and dean of technology, trades and apprenticeships, Mike McClements.

of pre-set instructions," said Huang.

The PLC will primarily monitor the actions of the two electric motors driving the car, he said.

Because the motors will be set

up in a differential configuration, they will run at slightly different speeds, and the PLC will monitor sensors — recording the state of the throttle, brake system, vehicle velocity, and steering position.

Huang said the PLC does this hundreds of times per second and based on that information coordinates the speeds of the two motors for the most efficient performance.

He said an ordinary computer could not be used to perform this task, because if there were a momentary interruption in power to the on-board computer, the computer would "crash" and have to go through an initialization or start-up process, which would leave the systems being regulated without control until that process is completed.

However, said Huang, a PLC does not have to go through an initialization process.

Running in a continuous loop the PLC constantly repeats the same instructions.

If the power is momentarily interrupted the PLC, when power is restored, instantly begins recording information from sensors and acts on information it receives at that time, he said.

Brian Morris, a robotics and automation instructor, uses several PLCs in his courses and he put the solar-car team in touch with Omron, said Huang. "And it turned out their PLC was perfect for our needs."

Omron has 10 Canadian sites, and established its Kitchener district sales office in 1982.

## Vice-president of student affairs only contest in coming election

By Trish Jackson

Vice-president of student affairs will be the only DSA position voted in during this year's elections on Feb. 24.

Three students are campaigning for the position: first-year business-administration management studies students Gerry Cleaves and Thomas Muller, and first-year business administration accounting student Salman Tahir.

The job includes assisting the president, running and promoting awareness weeks and recruiting volunteers, the implementation of the DSA drug plan and sitting on the board of governors.

Muller has been a DSA promotions assistant this past year, and feels his background has prepared him to become the vice-president of student affairs.

"I'd like people to vote for me because I don't sit back and let things slide by. I take charge and I like to see people get involved."

He has also had experience in promotion for the Kitchener Downtown Business Association during a high school co-op.

He said, if elected, he plans to find creative ways to promote and increase awareness of many issues such as date rape and responsible drinking, which the DSA has held awareness weeks for in the past.

He would also like to introduce awareness in areas such as eating disorders

and leukemia.

Muller's personal goals include attending university to get a degree in business after graduating from Conestoga, and possibly taking over the family business or starting his own.

"I'm a very outgoing person and I get along with everyone. I think people can depend on me to get the job done and to represent them and the college in the best way," said Muller.

If elected as vice-president of student affairs, Tahir says he has two goals: to raise the profile of

community work as a member of the Leo Club and as security in charge for Neighborhood Watch.

In the future he plans to get his masters' degree in business administration and start his own business.

Tahir hopes the students will give him the opportunity for the DSA position. "I'd like to ask them to try me out. I want to work for the students and work for the college."

The third candidate, Gerry Cleaves, said he has been very involved in DSA activities this year, and after a suggestion from the current DSA president, April-Dawn Blackwell, he decided to run for vice-president of student affairs.

"This is my big opportunity to do what I'm looking for. It's something I want to do. It's not so much I want to put it on a resume."

After graduating from Conestoga, Cleaves plans to join his family's business in wholesale and retail sales of equestrian equipment.

Cleaves said if he wins the DSA position, he wants to continue the present

quality of work done by current VP of student affairs, Bev Cutone, but also wants to try some "off the wall" things for awareness weeks, "something funny, but yet something people learn from," he said.

He has four-years' experience on his high school's athletic council and is currently a floor representative on the student residence council at Rodeway Suites. Next year, he will be a residence assistant.

He wants people to vote for him because, he said, "I've got some ideas. I've got too much energy and I've got to focus it. And it's a way I can help the school."



Thomas Muller

Conestoga College in the community and overseas and to involve all students in the DSA's decision-making processes.

"I want to bring the issues to the students through Spoke and class reps before decisions are made by the board," he said. "It's their life. It's their money. It's their future."

He also would like to work on improving the reputation of the college. "I want it to be a well-respected college," he said. "I want us to be proud we are from here."

Tahir said he has always been interested in politics. This year he was a class representative and DSA student board of directors member.

In his native home of Karachi, Pakistan, he was also involved in



Gerry Cleaves



Salman Tahir

## Special-needs office proposes admission changes

By Lynn Jackson

The special-needs office at Conestoga is submitting a proposal to change the admission procedure for special-needs students at the college, said the coordinator of special needs Marian Mainland.

"After one year of work we finally have a procedure that is going to go to the academic-management committee for approval," said Mainland.

Reasons for the change in the admission process partly stemmed from an incident revealing there was discrimination within the guidelines of the admissions testing and procedures, said Mainland.

Treena Carson, a first-year social-services student, said she had trouble passing the entrance english test and had failed twice because of her learning disability, dyslexia.

Because of her learning disability, she said she had difficulty with the grammar and especially the spelling sections of the admissions test.

"People have their strengths and weaknesses, and everybody's different. That (spelling) was my weakness," said Carson.

Carson said that on advice from the college, she had to redo her Grade 12 english, take summer and night courses related to the social-services program as well as spending a year at the Waterloo campus taking upgrading courses the college required.

During those courses, Carson said she still ran into the same frustrations due to her learning disability.

"It was most frustrating because I could have already been finished the program by now," said Carson.

Special-needs brought in a psychologist from outside the college to assess Carson's situation.

Having approached Conestoga president John Tibbits about the issue, Mainland said, "He asked my opinion about some of the comments made by the psychologist and I said that I agreed (with the psychologist). Our admissions process did discriminate against individuals with learning disabilities."

Mainland said that Tibbits gave her special permission to go ahead and take her ideas for changes in admissions procedure to the college's advisory committee.

"It took me two years to have the admissions process changed," said Carson.

The proposed policy changes to the admissions procedure allow specific-test accommodations for special-needs students during all their testing, including the admissions testing.

Carson will be attending a meeting, along with Mainland, with the college's advisory committee where she will speak about the importance of the proposed admissions policies for special-needs students at the college.

"It's a big step for Conestoga as a school, that everybody has an equal opportunity to an education," said Carson.

The proposed policy changes to the admissions procedure would require specific test accommodations for special-needs students during all their testing, including the admissions testing.

"Marian has really gone beyond her duty here as a special-needs counsellor," said Carson. "Marian saw this as an issue of discrimination and took it upon herself as a more personal issue."



## Tech-fee information session

# Open-access lab in fall, director of finance says

By Rick Kew

An information forum, organized by the Doon Student Association to answer questions concerning the new student technology enhancement fee, received only one question Feb. 12.

Held between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., it was difficult to tell how many of the approximately 100 people in the Sanctuary were present specifically to hear the information presented.

The panel was composed of April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA president; Gavin FitzPatrick, DSA entertainment manager and Kevin Mullan, director of finance for Conestoga.

The one question, posed by third-year marketing student Chris Bechard, addressed the issue of whether the \$35-per-semester fee Conestoga will charge students, beginning with the fall 1997 semester, is comparable to charges

students in other community colleges have been paying.

FitzPatrick explained Conestoga students were paying about the midpoint in actual dollars.

FitzPatrick said Mohawk, with a full-time student population approximately twice Conestoga's, charged a higher fee and other colleges charged as low as \$20.

However, he said Conestoga has begun a major fundraising campaign that will supplement the technology-enhancement fee and it was felt a \$35-student fee was sufficient.

Charging a smaller fee would not allow the DSA and the college to finance what was considered an adequate computer resource for the student population, said FitzPatrick.

Mullan pointed out that students would receive an immediate payback from the technology-enhancement fee, because the open-access (no scheduled class-

es) 60-station lab will be in operation when classes begin in the fall semester.

Along with the new computer equipment, students will have e-mail capabilities, accessed with PIN (personal identification numbers) numbers similar to those used with credit cards, said Mullan.

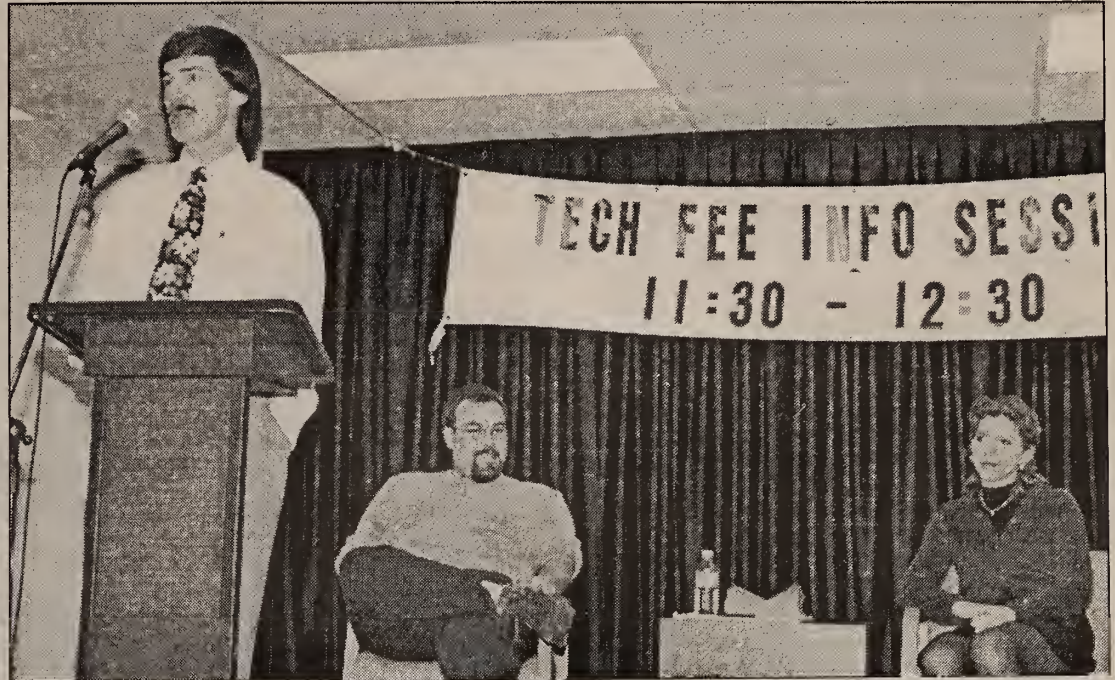
The fee will ensure a fund exists to update the equipment, he said, because in two-years' time even Pentium 166 computers may not run the software students need.

The college is budgeting \$6.3 million for immediate student needs, said Mullan and \$2.3 million is for computer upgrades to 12 labs and for equipping two new

computer labs, besides the open-access lab.

He said the college intends to have one server per lab, which will improve the efficiency of existing computer stations.

"Because of this agreement," he said, "computer systems at Conestoga will rival any college in the system."



**INFO SESSION** — Kevin Mullan, left, Conestoga's director of finance, talked to students in the Sanctuary about the new technology fee on Feb. 12. Gavin FitzPatrick, DSA entertainment manager, and April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA president, also participated. (Photo by Ross McDermott)



**ALL ALONE** — During the information forum Chris Bechard, right, keeps his distance from the microphone as he asks the only question of the session. (Photo by Rick Kew)

## CESA meeting rescheduled

By Bob Puersten

A meeting of Conestoga's Continuing Education Student Association (CESA) was rescheduled for lack of turn-out.

Only two students showed up for the meeting, scheduled at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 13, in Room 220 in the Student/Client Services building.

The agenda included a review of the mandate of the CESA, deciding the criteria for membership in CESA, and the electing of an executive.

Jacquie Rodden Yetman, a student in the teacher trainer pro-

gram, said that other continuing education students may have been working until 5 p.m. or 5:30 p.m.

Both students who showed up for the meeting had arranged to get off work early in order to be there.

It may be a sign that there isn't discontent among the continuing education students, said Wayne Hussey, Conestoga's executive director of the department of community relations.

The CESA meeting has been rescheduled for Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 220 in the Student/Client Services building.

## Woodworking Apprenticeship Contest

# Conestoga hosts competition

By Colleen Cassidy

The woodworking centre will be hosting the fourth annual Ontario-wide Woodworking Apprenticeship Contest sponsored by the Architectural Millworkers of Ontario and the Architectural Woodworking Millworkers Association of Canada (AWMAC) on March 1.

Al Sparling, an instructor at the woodworking centre, said the competition is limited to recent apprentices, recent wood-working technicians and technologist graduates and students who are registered in a post-secondary woodworking program.

He said a \$20-registration fee is to help cover the cost of materials, but some of the tools are donated by companies in the woodworking industry.

All contestants will be building cabinets from the same plans, which they will receive one week prior to the contest, Sparling said.

He said the competitors will get a package of all the materials and tools they will need to build their cabinet on the morning of the contest.

"There will be only one package of materials for each contestant. If somebody makes a mistake he will have to fix it as best he can and finish the project," Sparling said.

He said participants will be permitted to use their

own tools providing they meet safety standards agreed upon by a panel of three contest judges.

The contest will officially begin at 8 a.m. and participants will have nine hours to complete their projects. Judging will take place at 5:15 p.m.

There will be a two-person safety team and a registered nurse at the event for the full day, Sparling said.

The winner will receive a gift certificate from Lee Valley Tools for an, as yet, unknown amount, a letter of recognition and a plaque, he said.

The winning cabinet will become the property of AWMAC and will be sent to Red Deer, Alta., for a national competition on May 29, 30 and 31.

The other cabinets may be taken home and those left will be used at the woodworking centre, Sparling said.

There will be no more than 18 competitors and most of the entrants will be from Conestoga,

Sparling said.

He would prefer it not to be a Conestoga contest, but one of the reasons there are so few out-of-town competitors could be because the woodworking centre is the largest in Ontario, with the most students.

Expensive travel and hotel costs are probably another reason there won't be many participants from outside the K-W-Cambridge area, he said.

Sparling said the event is a friendly competition to promote education, woodworking and millworking.

The event is a friendly competition to promote education, woodworking and millworking.

Al Sparling  
woodworking instructor

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## SPOKE

"Keeping Conestoga College Connected"

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SPOKE is published and produced weekly by journalism students of Conestoga College. SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by the Doon Student Association (DSA). The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the DSA. Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect or MS Word file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

## Students' apathy rampant

Whoever first said "You get what you pay for," could not foresee the current changes being implemented in Ontario's post-secondary education system.

One would think, with government cuts to education and post-secondary institutions across Ontario predicting increases in tuition, that students would stand united and, in one strong voice, protest against these unfair changes. But this is not the case.

Apathy is running rampant among post-secondary students in Ontario.

Generally speaking, students are either unconcerned or uninformed about changes to education that will have serious effects on their future.

When tuition increases were announced at the University of Toronto, students voiced their concerns. They staged a protest rally on Feb. 10, and occupied the university president's office.

In a CBC Radio interview on Feb. 12, University of Toronto president Robert Prichard said only 22 students attended the rally and only eight students occupied his office.

One would think with an overall student population of about 50,000, more students would have been involved in these protests.

And what about here at Conestoga?

For the 1997-98 DSA elections, both positions of president and vice-president of operations were filled by acclamation because not enough students vied for the positions.

During the technology-free information session held in the Sanctuary on Feb. 12, the microphone was opened for students to ask questions. Only one student took advantage of the opportunity.

This raises a simple question: Why?

Is it because students are too busy with their studies to take the time to get involved? Or, perhaps, they just don't care.

The answer to this is, like the question, simple.

Today's generation of students have grown accustomed to living in a "me" society; "looking out for number one," and all that crap.

If this attitude doesn't change, students will never see that "number one" is being handed a pile of "number two" by the provincial government and post-secondary administrators.

At Conestoga, the implementation of alternative delivery should have been a wake-up call. These methodologies were introduced at the college as quickly and efficiently as possible.

A recommendation found in the research compiled by Conestoga's manager of alternative curriculum delivery methodologies, Carolyn Dudgeon, was ignored by administration.

This recommendation stated that students require training before entering a course taught in this format.

Though this problem has now been remedied, in the beginning students were not given any preparatory instruction.

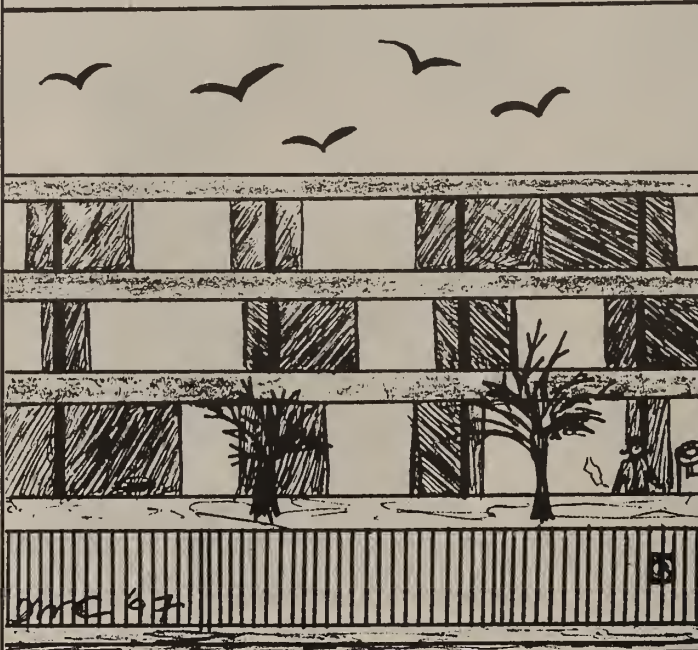
The college's concern is not the education of the students, but to operate cost-effectively.

It's time for students to lose the apathetic attitude and wake up and smell the faeces. They're being shafted and they're not getting what they pay for.

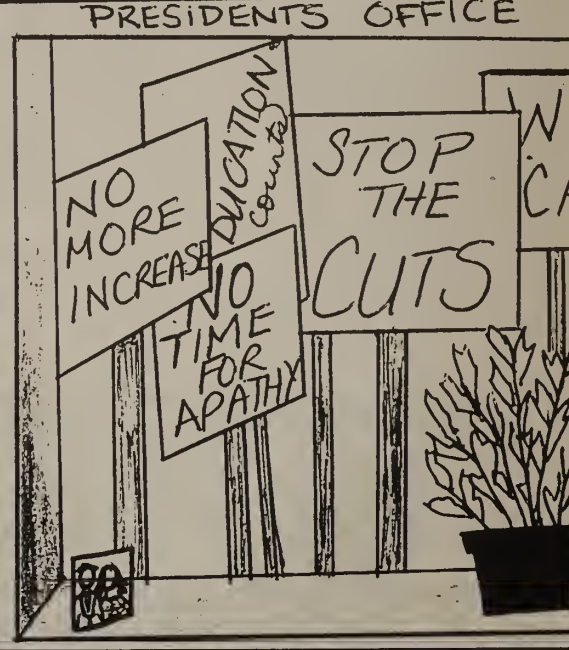


Ross McDermott

## CONESTOGA



## U OF T



## Make room in job market for Generation X

Students in colleges and universities may be wasting their time and money.

Education is not going to help in a decreasing job market.

With the baby boomers slowly making their way through the decreasing job market, there is very little opening up for the younger generation.

Generation X, the in-between generation, is exactly that. They are between two stones — the baby boomers and the babies — that will eventually collide leaving them busted.

When the time comes for the baby boomers to retire, most of Generation X will be at an older stage in their own lives, which in essence will leave them at a disadvantage.



Wendy Cummins

Although qualified, they will become too old, or too long out of the field to be worthy of employment.

It is then that the students happily enjoying blocks and lego in 1997 will come in and overturn the industry by supplying freshly trained and youthful employees to the market.

So why are thousands of students wasting their time in college or university?

Most likely because they are told that is what makes them employable. Not quite.

The baby boomers still make up a large percentage of the job force and will continue to do so for the next 15 to 25 years, until they eventually retire.

With the government talking about "McJobs" and increased experience for the young, they may consider one other option. Drop the retirement age.

With the retirement age at 50 for example, the baby boomers will leave gaping holes in the workforce which will need to be filled.

And by whom?

That's right, Generation X will finally get their turn and maybe some sense of identity.

Of course, this will never happen.

The government does not recognize the need to be rid of the baby boomers from the workforce because they themselves are "at that age".

So, after spending thousands of dollars on furthering their education, those students who gambled their futures on colleges and universities, will be left broke and unemployed.

Granted, an education is a great thing to have, but if it will not get you anywhere in the working world — was there ever any point to it?

So instead of wasting valuable money furthering education and hoping some good will come of it, students would be better off saving their money till the baby-boomer train stops running and Generation X comes aboard.

## Arguments for death penalty shouldn't be based on emotion

In a column in last week's Spoke, my classmate, Peggy Sue Ironside, argued for capital punishment.

In the column, Ironside defeated her own argument in two short paragraphs.

She admitted the judicial system does make mistakes.

Brief acknowledgment was made of the horrors endured by Guy Paul Morin, the man who was charged with, and after two trials, convicted of the 1984 murder of Christine Jessop. After more than 10 years, through DNA evidence, he was found to be innocent.

Morin's conviction was a serious mistake that claimed a large portion of his life. But at least he has the rest of his



Colleen Cassidy

life. He and his family can take consolation that the death penalty doesn't exist in Canada.

That the judicial system does err should be all the argument needed against the reinstatement of the death penalty.

However, there are those who insist upon pointing to Paul Bernardo and Clifford Olson, both mentioned in last week's column.

It's not likely anybody will disagree with her description of them as "monstrosities", and people who side against capital punishment may question themselves when these two men are mentioned during arguments in favor of the death penalty.

But those questions are based on emotion because of the extreme brutality of the murders.

The videos Bernardo made of his crimes and Olson telling the families of

his 11 young victims where he buried their bodies certainly provided evidence of their guilt.

In spite of Bernardo's and Olson's obvious guilt and their heinous crimes, Canada can't have two laws dealing with murderers.

We can't say those who have committed murder in a brutal manner will be given the death penalty and those who commit murder in a not-so brutal manner will receive life in prison. How can anyone make that distinction?

Murder is a brutal crime.

Sound arguments and decisions, for or against anything, aren't based on fear or anger.

To make a strong argument, or before a decision is made, individuals and countries must look at the entire picture, and that includes even the smallest possibility of an irreversible mistake being made.



## STUDENT LIFE

# Students surveyed oppose tuition increase

By Sara Maxim

Opinion at the college does not support the provincial government's decision to allow a tuition increase for the 1997-98 school year.

Education and Training Minister John Snobelen recently announced the Ontario government's decision to allow colleges and universities to raise tuition by up to 10 per cent overall, or up to 20 per cent in any one program.

In an informal survey of 10 students, taken a week after the provincial government's announcement, not one student would support a tuition increase.

Wendy Dawson-Read, a final-semester practical nursing student, thought an increase in tuition would only make sense if the teaching, services and materials available to students could account for the increase.

"If the government is going to

keep cutting services and everything for students and yet charging students more and more, well, I don't see the rationale behind it," Dawson-Read said.

Lori Snyder, a third-year business-administration accounting student, said if tuition fees are increased, colleges and universities had better prepare for a drop in enrolment numbers. She also thought some students might opt to take a two-year course rather than a three-year course because of the rising costs of attending post-secondary institutes.

Jeff Bedford, a self-paced micro-computer applications student, said he will not be affected by an increase in tuition because his program is subsidized by the government. However, Bedford does think that students pay enough tuition already.

Classmate Gerry Loranger agreed with Bedford but felt the tuition increase would affect him.

"Although my course is subsidized, this is my community and if the education level goes, well, so does our community," Loranger said.

Matthew Mascola, a second-year law and security administration student, didn't think tuition needed to be raised at all. He said students paid enough to attend post-secondary institutions as is, and didn't think it was right to raise tuition even more.

Cheryl Bouchard, a third-year business-administration accounting student, said she thinks an increase in tuition will further cut off the accessibility of education.

"It's hard enough to get kids through high school — let alone college," Bouchard said.

She didn't believe an increase in tuition would improve the quality of education available in Ontario.

"They're raising the costs, but what are they doing for education?" Bouchard said.



Wendy Dawson-Read



Lori Snyder



Jeff Bedford



Gerry Loranger



Matthew Mascola



Cheryl Bouchard

### Off campus

## New group supports people with eating disorders

By Lynne Thompson

A new learning and support group for people with eating disorders, weight-preoccupation, body image problems or chronic dieting issues has been established in Kitchener.

Meetings for LIGHT, which stands for Learning, Insight, Growth, Health . . . Together, began Feb. 13 and will be held every second and fourth Thursday from 7 p.m. until approximately 9 p.m., according to a press release from LIGHT. The group will meet in the Gold Room at the Grand River Hospital.

Laurie Manwell, along with Susan Knight, is facilitating the group, and she stressed that LIGHT is not a therapy group.

It is, instead, a place where people who are concerned about eating disorders can get together with

others in similar situations to talk. Members will find out they are not alone and can attempt to understand how their problems affect them, Manwell said.

The group is open to anyone who is concerned about eating disorders and body images, as well as friends and family members of someone who is struggling with these problems, she said.

The focus will cover a wide range of issues such as self-esteem, sexuality, relationships, stress management and anger awareness, the press release stated.

The group came about as a result of declining attendance at another support group SEED (Support for Everyone with Eating Disorders), which was started by Knight about 5 years ago, said Manwell.

"We know there are people out there who need help and support. We don't know why they aren't

coming; it could be any number of things. We tried to vary the time, the place, the format (with LIGHT). Hopefully that will encourage people to come," said Manwell.

The group will belong to the members and the goal of the first meeting will be to determine if people are more interested in a self-help format or a learning format, she said.

Manwell and Knight, both of whom have recovered from eating disorders, will take on the role of

facilitators, rather than preachers or therapists.

Manwell sees her role, along with Knight, as simply guiding the process and organizing the sessions.

The group will run as the members want it to and in a way which they think will be most beneficial to them, said Manwell.

The press release stated the group will meet its goals through discussions, guest speakers, films, books, and practice activities. Manwell said they have spoken to

people who are willing to come in to talk to LIGHT, if the members are interested.

She said her background in science and biology will be helpful in her work with LIGHT. She also works with HOPE (Helping Open People's Eyes) and speaks at high schools about eating disorders, all as a volunteer.

Anyone who has concerns about body image, male or female, are invited to attend LIGHT meetings. There is no charge to attend any of the meetings.

### DOON STUDENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS



#### CRITERIA FOR AWARDS

**Certificate of Appreciation** - the recipients of these certificates are members of the College Community whose contribution to College Life has been significant.

**Award of Distinction** - the recipients of this award are members of the College Community whose contribution to College Life has been outstanding.

**Award of Excellence** - the highest award presented by the Doon Student Association in recognition and appreciation of outstanding leadership and involvement in College Life.

Nominations

Open - Monday February 3

Close - Friday, February 28

Nominations forms are available at the DSA Office or Student Services

Awards will be presented at the DSA Annual Awards Banquet on Monday, April 14.

For more information please call Becky at the DSA Office 748-5131.

## Elections '97

✕ Polls Open Feb. 24 - 27

Mon. Feb. 24, 10 am - 2 pm

✕ Main Cafe., bottom of stairway

✕ Outside Room 2A01

Tues. Feb. 25 to Thurs. Feb. 27,

10 am - 2 pm daily

✕ Main Cafe., bottom of stairway

✕ Outside Room 1B23

✕ Outside Room 2A01

### Exercise you Right Vote!

For More Information please see  
Jason St. Amand, Chief Returning Officer  
at the DSA Office



## STUDENT LIFE

# New DSA president looking forward to upcoming year

By Ross McDermott

Chris Kroeker sat in the DSA president's office, a room that will soon be his. A wide smile adorned his face and his bright eyes shone with childlike wonder.

To people that know him, Kroeker, a second-year business-administration management studies student, sometimes seems a little strange.

"Talk to most of my friends and they will say I'm a little bit odd," Kroeker said with a sheepish grin.

"I just like to have fun with whatever I do."

That, he said, is why he gets involved in so many activities at the college. He is currently a DSA promotion's assistant. But as of May, he will fill the position of DSA president for 1997-98.

Kroeker said he wasn't always so eager to be involved in activities.

"Back in high school I was always shy. I didn't get involved as much as I really wanted to."

He said the same attitude followed him into his first year at Conestoga. "I kind of sat back and went with the flow."

Kroeker said his involvement progressed from sitting on the DSA's board of directors to being a member of the Conestoga Business Students' Association and finally, as a promotion's assistant on the DSA.

"I noticed as soon as I started becoming more involved I was really enjoying the whole experience," Kroeker said.

He said he has adopted a new philosophy on life since his shy high school days.

"If you just sit back and do nothing, you're existing but you're not really living," he says.

This philosophy was instrumental in his decision to run for DSA president.

"I decided it would be a good experience, especially with my program being management studies. I think it will be fun."

Kroeker says he feels he is the right person for the job. He has been involved with the DSA for two years and said he knows how the organization runs.

"I know how to interact and I think that's probably one of the most important things," Kroeker said.

He said if someone completely new to the job comes into the position they don't have the same feel for it, whereas if the person is already experienced with DSA operations they're comfortable with how things work.

"I think that's one of my big assets right now," he said.

Another asset, said Kroeker, is his ability to be a team player. That, he said, is what the DSA is all about.

"I really hope we're going to get a good executive — I think we will," he said.

Kroeker said he hopes the new DSA can maintain the success of the current DSA.

"This year I think things went really well. I think it's one of the best executives I've ever seen," he said. "My goal is to maintain that if not better it."

Kroeker said he's not exactly sure what he wants to do when he graduates, but is interested in a



**A SMILING FACE** — Chris Kroeker, a second-year business-administration management studies student, has been appointed as the new DSA president effective in May. (Photo by Ross McDermott)

field that will allow him to deal with people.

"I thought about starting my own business, but I've changed my views on that," Kroeker said. "I'd like to get into a company and just deal with the people aspect — maybe human resources."

Originally an accounting student, Kroeker discovered that area of study wasn't filling his needs.

"I was good at it, but it just didn't have the interaction so I switched to management studies," he said.

Kroeker said he is looking forward to being the DSA president. His training for the position began the week of Feb. 17 and will continue until May when he officially takes office.

"The nerves are starting to settle and the reality is sinking in," he said.

### O.S.A.P. Notice

If you are returning to Full-Time studies in September and you received OSAP for your 1996-97 academic year, your **preprinted 1997-98 OSAP Application Form** is now available for you to pick up.

Special Distribution of your form is as follows:

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 25th  
Wednesday, February 26th

**TIME:** 11:00am to 2:30pm

**LOCATION:** Blue Room Cafeteria

Following those times you may pick up your application form:

Monday to Thursday, 1:30pm to 3:30pm in the Registrar's Office.

## Tour rep offers tips for spring break

By Wendy Cummins

Students should use their common sense during this year's spring break, says DSA president April-Dawn Blackwell.

Blackwell said students going away, or staying at home for spring break should have fun, relax and take time for themselves.

"Take a break. That is what spring break is for," she said.

President John Tibbits said he hopes students are careful and they take care when drinking and not drink excessively. Also driving while impaired is usually a big issue during spring break, he said.

Just be careful during spring break, he said.

T.J. Donnelly, a tour representative for Ontario colleges and universities from Breakaway tours, said wherever students go they should stay in groups or with friends.

One tip Donnelly offers students heading away from home is to always tell other people where you are going.

In a different area than you are used to, there are always people to look out for, he said.

Also, Donnelly recommends students make sure they have proper insurance, before heading across the border or into another country.

Although, he said, tours operating under Breakaway have personnel travel with the students to the various locations. They are there



**UP IN THE AIR** — Promotions assistant Chris Kroeker displays the condoms which are available free of charge to students in the DSA office. (Photo by Wendy Cummins)

for any emergency situations.

If someone does become ill the cause can be from anything from drinking, dehydration, to food poisoning, Donnelly said.

If students become ill they are best to seek medical attention as soon as possible, he said.

For Conestoga students who are planning to, or are thinking about, engaging in sexual activity during

spring break, the DSA offers condoms to students in their office.

DSA president Blackwell said condoms are available all year round, at the DSA office, and are there for the students at no charge.

Donnelly said if students are going to have sex they should play it safe.

"You never know who you're getting into bed with," he said.



### The Al Logan Award

Nominations being accepted in Student Services (Room 2B02) for a student who has demonstrated:

- A warm and caring attitude
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- A good sense of humour

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## STUDENT LIFE

## Doon student published for third time

By Jennifer Dougall

To his friends, he is a former boxer who liked to race motorcycles and who was forced to return to school after a shop-floor accident. But in writing circles, James Wilson is an editor's choice winning poet.

Wilson, a first-year business-administration materials management student who goes by the first name of Greg, has had his work published in two poetry anthologies entitled *The Path Not Taken* and *The Best of the '90s*. This spring, he will be published for a third time in the book,

*The Best of 1997*.

Wilson said writing poetry is not the type of thing people who know him would expect.

He has been writing poems for him self "a lot of years," beginning during grade school. "They were only for my own benefit. Lots of fun," he said.

While he was taking upgrading courses at the St. Louis Adult Learning Centre in Cambridge, he began to pull together unfinished poems he started when he was younger.

He drew his inspiration from books he was studying at school.

During that time, his english teacher told him of the National Poetry Society's poetry contest.

He got an entry form and sent it in with his poem entitled *Nature Calls*.

The poem garnered him his first Editor's Choice Award. Wilson writes mostly in rhyme.

He has tried to write in free-verse, which he says he's not crazy about. Before he returned to school his poetry was light-hearted, but

James Wilson holds a copy of *The Best of the '90s*, one of three books containing his works. (Photo by Jennifer Dougall)

since then, he said his poetry reflects current social issues.

He said he likes to write poems that make him think a little bit.

Wilson said he has trouble writing poetry when it is required of him. "Creativity just isn't there when it is on demand."

He said an idea will quite often be in his head for a while before he finally gets it on paper.

His favorite time to write is right before bed when he is relaxed. Sometimes he'll get an idea then and type out a complete poem on his computer, but, he said most don't come that easily.

He said his favorite poem growing up was *The Cremation of Sam McGee* by Robert Service because his little brother put the poem to music.

He had to learn the complete poem for school and to this day, Wilson said he can remember the words.

Though he does quite a bit of poetry reading, Wilson said he has no favorite poet, poetry style or time-frame.

He said he prefers to read poems by new, non-famous authors and has read many of the poems from the two books he was published in.

He said famous poets often follow patterns or fall into a rut, which he ties back to his dislike of writing poetry on demand.

This year will be the last time he enters his poetry to the contest, he said.

He said the books are in hardcover and very expensive to buy.

Wilson recommended the books to aspiring poets because they are good venues to get published. He said there is a good readership for the books and "it doesn't hurt to be recognized."

Wilson said he is thinking of finding another venue for his works, or even getting his poetry published on his own.

A friend told Wilson to look into the greeting card business, which he is now considering.

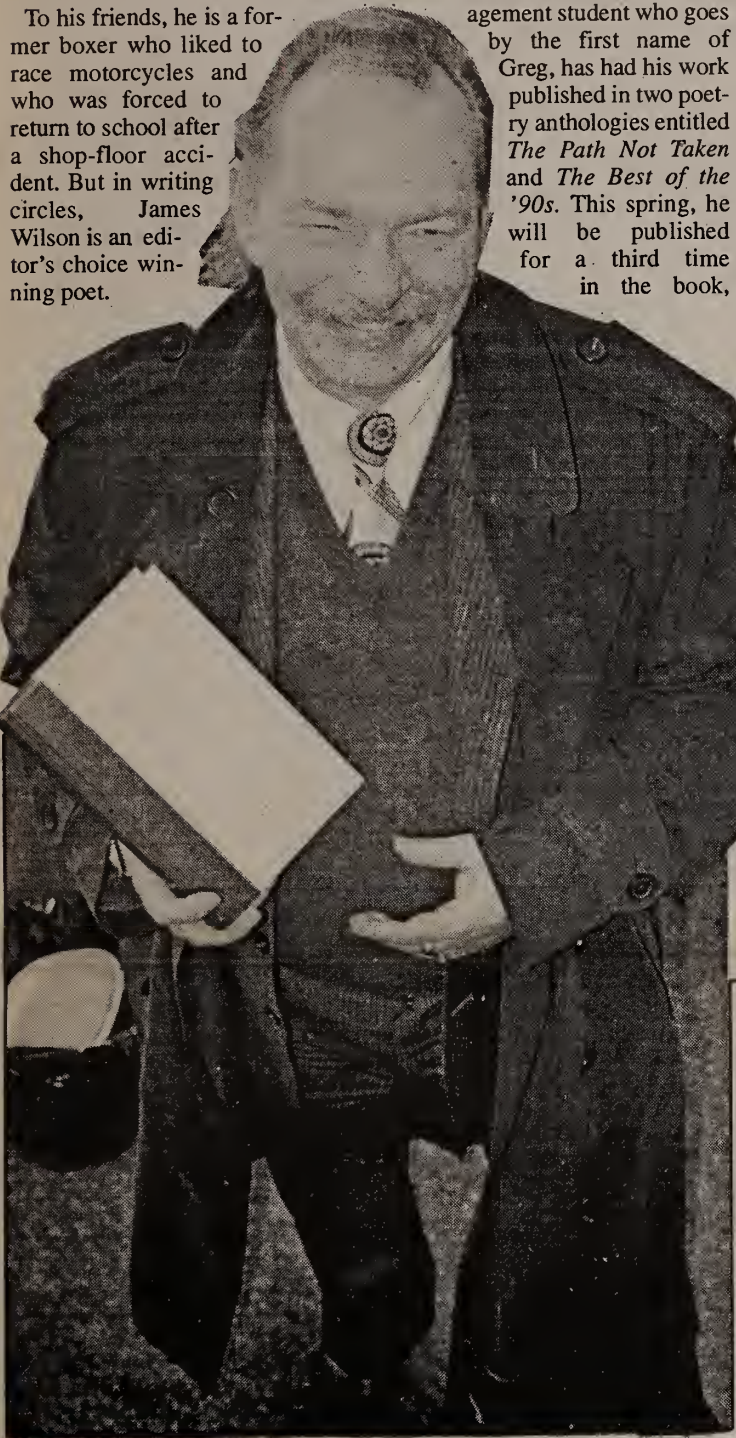
Wilson said if nothing comes of his poetry, "I'll go back to doing it for myself again."

Wilson is also planning to put his management studies diploma to work.

He said, depending on the economic climate at the time he graduates he may open his own business.

Because of his published works, Wilson is an honorary member of the National Poetry Society, of which Florence Henderson and Gerald Ford are also members, and the International Society of Poets.

He donated a copy of *The Path Not Taken* to Conestoga's learning resource centre.



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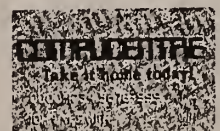


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## STUDENT LIFE

# Snow crews challenged by seasonal changes

By Helene Beaulieu

Despite longer days and warmer temperatures, Barry Milner, manager of physical resources, says this is one of the most challenging times of the season when it comes to snow removal.

Milner said the impending spring creates a "freeze-thaw" cycle that poses a challenge for snow crews.

He said the warm sun during the day will often melt snowbanks along sidewalks.

Later in the afternoon, when the sun goes down, the resulting stream of water freezes, creating a hazard.

Milner said the middle of February to the end of March is just a nightmare some years.

"Before that period we get a lot of snow; however, you can deal with snow, snow can be moved. And as long as you have the equipment to do it, it's easy to fight."

Bill Shaddick, supervisor of roads operations for Waterloo Region, said the variable temperatures and increased blowing snow at this time of year pose the biggest challenges.

He said when the temperature dips to -10 C, salt becomes ineffective if there is no sun. "Sun will melt snow. With cloud cover it will turn to ice," he said.

Milner said the most difficult weather system to worry about clearing snow for, is one that occurs early in the morning and that contains a mixture of elements like freezing rain, snow and rain.

"Right now we're entering the worst possible weather mixture," Milner said. "You really don't know exactly how to fight the situation, in some cases, because it

changes on you so much and so fast."

Milner said the jet-stream is a major player at this time of year.

"It's going all over the place until the beginning of April when the warmer weather sets in," he said. "From now until then it could be all over the map bringing us all kinds of different weather conditions."

However, when it comes to closing campuses, Milner said things have to be really bad for the school to be closed.

Milner said if weather conditions warrant a check, then public services (like city public-works departments, the Ministry of Transportation and local transit officials) are contacted at around 5 a.m. to see how their operations are going.

Milner said, "Whenever the campus is shut down we've normally been in much better condition than the city streets, the regional roads or the provincial highways have been. So that getting here has been probably more difficult than when you finally arrive."

Frank Hergott, manager for the City of Waterloo's public-works department, said the volume of traffic on city streets is a factor in the development of ice on roads. He said cars will pack down the snow and create more ice.

The City of Waterloo uses a liquid-calcium brine on roads, said Hergott.

He said the solution heats faster, lasts longer and is not any worse on the environment than salt.

Milner said it's been three years since the school was last closed due to weather conditions.

"Primarily, we try to stay open as a college through any weather conditions," he said.



**BLOCK BUSTER** — Three-year-old Jake Ironside occupies the "tower" he has constructed using the centre's building blocks. (Photo by Rick Kew)

## Day care a real toy story

By Lynne Thompson

Toys are toys, right? Not so at Conestoga's day-care centre.

Day-care team leader Maria Roberts said its toys are not chosen randomly, but are based on the developmental milestones children go through.

"It's like the steps on a ladder," said Roberts. "With each step, the toys get more difficult and there is less adult interference required. In all age groups there must be toys children can choose and manage on their own."

These age groups are divided by licensing. In the four-month to 18-month age group, day-care providers must consider the safety and complexity of the toys. Pieces must be large so children will not swallow them, said Roberts. For toddlers, children 18-months to 30-months, puzzles and toys with more pieces are added. Children in the 2 1/2- to 5-year-old group have toys with the most complexity.

Roberts said students with an early childhood education diploma have the knowledge needed to choose appropriate toys for each age group. Most toy companies also include an age-range which they believe is appropriate for their toys.

Conestoga's day care buys toys from educational supply stores, second-hand stores, or major toy

stores, said Roberts. They also accept donations, provided the toys are clean and in good working condition.

Day-care staff are responsible for cleaning the toys with a Javex and water solution, according to public health guidelines, said Roberts. Toys used by infants are cleaned daily, since children this age have a tendency to put everything they touch into their mouths.

Not just any toy is acceptable to the day care, said Roberts. They do not promote violence; therefore, war toys, action figures and toy guns are all absent from the day care toy shelves.

Roberts said the day care's policy against violence is explained to all parents when their children begin at the day care.

Conestoga's day care also works to ensure there are no gender specifications on toys. All their dolls, for example, are generic, multi-racial, multi-gender dolls, said Roberts.

"The staff encourage the children to explore all the toys in the room," said Roberts. "They are not told some toys are for boys and some toys are for girls."

What is found in the day care are such things as blocks, lego and puzzles. Roberts said they use toys which have a lot of play value in several different situations.



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## STUDENT LIFE

### Journalism student's photo among finalists in contest

By Ellen Douglas

A photo taken by a Conestoga journalism student will be published in the Best of College Photography Annual: 1997.

Helene Beaulieu, who is in her second semester at Conestoga, was a finalist in the 17th Annual College Photography Contest run by Photographer's Forum magazine.

The contest received more than 19,500 entries, states a letter Beaulieu received from the magazine's publisher, Glen R. Serbin.

The magazine's photo editor, Nell Campbell, chose the top six per cent of the entries as finalists, states the letter.

Beaulieu said she entered three slides and a photograph in the contest. The photograph shows her four-year-old son Isaac "playing" next to a puddle.

"I was trying to get a composition shot for my basic photography course," she said. "I asked him to wash

his toy cars and I noticed he was reflected in the puddle, so I tried to incorporate the reflection into the picture."

"People have asked me if he's really playing," said Beaulieu. "The truth is he was really sick of having his picture taken. He kept asking, 'can I stop now?'"

Beaulieu said entering the contest was just a lark. "I figured 'nothing ventured, nothing gained,'" she said.

After Beaulieu entered the contest she was sent a copy of the magazine which had the winners of another photo contest.

"The shots were much more creative and artistic," she said. "I thought I was way out of my league. I was almost embarrassed for entering."

Beaulieu's letter states that the names of the first- to fourth-place winners and honorable mentions will be mailed on Feb. 18, 1997.

But she said she's happy to have come this far. "It's nice to have been recognized by someone other than faculty and friends."



(Photo by Helene Beaulieu)

### Students strut their stuff at graphics exhibition

By Lisa Kloepper

The third-year Conestoga graphics and advertising class held an exhibition at Kitchener City Hall from Feb. 13 to 15.

On Feb. 13, the students held an opening ceremony which included various speakers from the college and the industry.

Julie Knowles, a member of the class, said nearly 200 people showed up for the opening night.

"The turn-out was great," she said. The people who went to see the students display their work were family, friends, students and people in the business community.

Marina Huissoon of Walter Fedy, a local architectural firm, John Tibbits, the college president and Jo-Anne Kyriakou, the team leader of the exhibition, were among the speakers on opening night.

Knowles said the students have been receiving great comments on the exhibition.

"People have said it's well organized, the work is excellent, and that we did a great job," she said.

The entire class of 22 students put together the exhibition, which has been in the works since the beginning of their third year in September.

The idea to have the exhibition was initiated in

their first year, said Knowles.

The group decided it would be better to wait until their third year for the showing. In their final year, Knowles said, their work would be better. With better work they could aim at the business community.

Quite a few students have been asked to visit graphic and packaging companies to show their portfolios.

A number of other students received business cards from people in the industry.

The exhibition featured projects from the students' second and third years.

The students' work includes logo designs, packaging, sculptures, magazine covers, poster designs, and advertising.

Two three-dimensional displays were done by students Doug Burton and D'Arcy Dufresne.

Burton put together a number of cartoon-like sculptures made from a plastic clay-like material called Fimo.

Dufresne designed his own line of Swatch watches. The watches resembled the real thing, and he spared no time or expense on the project.

Kyriakou said Dufresne even went to the extreme by having the stones he used in the face professionally sanded and polished.

### Student concerned about funding cuts

By Colleen Cassidy

Sid Relic, an intermediate-level apprenticeship student at the woodworking centre, is concerned about government cuts to the apprenticeship programs across the country.

The federal government is planning on withdrawing its contribution by 1999.

Provincial governments are supposed to contribute one-third of the cost, however, funding cuts have been made to the apprenticeship programs for the last three years.

Relic lives and works in Hamilton but has commuted to Conestoga for two months each year since he began the four-year program.

Three years ago, there was an apprenticeship program at Mohawk College in Hamilton, but because of the funding cuts the program was suspended.

Relic said it would be convenient if he could attend classes at Mohawk, but he needs to come to Conestoga if he wants his papers proving he has passed his apprenticeship.

"Funding cuts will make it difficult for people to be able to attend class. Companies may not be willing to sponsor apprentices. There is a danger of woodworking becoming a lost art," Relic said.

He said schooling offers a lot that employers don't or can't offer. Often the equipment at school is more up-to-date than what the company owns.

Currently, for a person to be eligible as a woodworking apprentice, he needs a job. He can request of his employer to sponsor him as an apprenticeship student. If he is accepted in the program he will work for 10 months and attend classes for eight weeks.

Relic is concerned that if apprenticeship programs are cut, the quality of workmanship will deteriorate.

"People won't have pride in their work. A person could be doing nothing but sanding for a year. He won't know anything about woodworking, and probably won't care."

"It's possible furniture manufacturing will be done on an assembly line. One person pushes a button and down the line, another person will put in a screw. How can anyone find satisfaction or take pride in that?" Relic said.

Relic works at Hamilton Custom Millwork, but when he started in the program he was employed at another company that has closed.

He said because he already was an apprentice it was easier for him to find another job with a company that agreed to sponsor him. Otherwise he would have had to drop out of the program.

### Safe Break Awareness Week Feb. 24 -28



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## STUDENT LIFE

# More recycling programs unlikely at Doon campus

By Tony Kobilnyk

In an average week the population of Conestoga's Doon campus uses about 6,500 styrofoam coffee cups, 3,000 cold drink cups and 6,000 pieces of plastic cutlery, said John Kast, district manager of Beaver Foods.

Ultimately, these items all end up in a landfill.

Other items, such as glass and aluminum containers, are currently redirected from landfills through the college's participation in Waterloo Region's recycling program; however, this program does not include styrofoam or plastic.

Joy Rainer of the Region of Waterloo waste management administration centre, said it would be unlikely the region will begin recycling such items within the next five years.

She said the blue box program is still being examined for efficiency and there is still a great deal of controversy over the best way to handle many waste items. Several options exist, including incineration, landfilling and recycling.

Rainer said if the college is interested in recycling the items, there are several private companies that would collect the items.

Dave Putt, director of physical resources at Conestoga, said it is simply not economically feasible to recycle styrofoam and plastic at this time.

He said the college did look into recycling

plastic and styrofoam about 18 months ago but rejected the idea for several reasons.

No local companies were available at that time, Putt said, therefore transportation costs would be high.

"Budget cut-backs mean we have to trim whatever we can from non-academic areas. If we keep our non-academic costs down, then we can keep more money going to the classroom."

Putt said the collection of the styrofoam and plastic was also a concern. He said this could lead to many blue boxes in a corridor cluttering the hallway, as well as further costs to the college because someone would have to collect the recyclables from all the boxes.

"There has to be a balance between cost to the college and good citizenship."

Beaver Foods encourages waste reduction, Kast said. A 5-cent discount on coffee purchases is given when patrons bring their own mug.

"Students probably don't go for it because it's not convenient to lug a mug around," he said.

Kast said reusable items such as china plates and stainless steel cutlery are expensive for Beaver Foods to purchase and there is constant breakage. Furthermore, much of it gets stolen or ends up in the garbage through carelessness, he said.

Kast said if disposable item costs were reduced then the cost savings could be passed on to the consumer.



**DISPOSABLE COSTS** — John Kast, district manager of Beaver Foods, stands by cases of disposable cups, which eventually end up in landfills. (Photo by Tony Kobilnyk)

## Spring break destinations

# Activities available for students staying north during holidays

By Wendy Cummins

As thousands of students make their way south this spring break, thousands more will stay at home.

For some students money is an issue in their staying home, said Doon Student Association director of student life Becky Boertien.

Boertien said the response this year for trips the DSA has promoted is lower than last year.

For students staying at home this break there are still affordable options open, said Travel Cuts' representative Lisa Laycoe.

Laycoe said if students were looking for a weekend getaway both Niagara Falls and Montreal have hostels near the town centres which are both affordable and accessible.

As for activities in such places, during spring break, Anna D'Amico, office manager of The Niagara Falls Canada Visitor and Convention Bureau, said, besides the four local nightclubs, including Rumours and Cellblock, there is also the new Casino Niagara, Darkzone, a laser fighting arena, and the Ripley's movie theatre.

Also, D'Amico said there are shows such as O'Canada eh?!

dinner show, the Imax Theatre and Yuk Yuks, which are all under \$10 admission.

Hostelling International offers rooms for between \$15 - \$20 a night and is located close to both the bus and train stations as well as the Falls and casino.

D'Amico said students could "cross the border for a buck," and have access to all the attractions on the United States side as well.

Travel expenses for such an in-province excursions by bus from Kitchener are usually only \$25 round-trip said D'Amico.

For students wanting to get out of the province for a few days,

Montreal is only \$96 round-trip on the train.

Montreal also offers hostelling services to budgeters. Auberge de Montreal, located on MacKay Street is located 15 minutes from the train station and costs between \$20 - \$25 a night.

An agent at the Montreal Visitor and Convention bureau said Crescent Rue (Street) offers many nightclubs to visitors from out of province. Casino du Montreal and the Olympic Tower are also tourist attractions.

Located along the St. Lawrence River, Montreal also offers skaters a wide open area for practice.

But, for those students who still want the sun, fun and partying, DSA director Boertien said, there is still an Orlando package available for \$299 including taxes.

T. J. Donnelly, a tour representative with Breakaway Tours said the Orlando package also includes free shuttle service to Daytona Beach during the day as well as shuttle service to local attractions such as Disneyworld, Universal Studios or Epcot Centre.

Donnelly said the Florida trips seem to sell well with Conestoga students.

"Students are looking for an affordable trip, to go away, party and have fun," he said.

Breakaway Tours usually sends approximately 10,000 students to Florida each year, Donnelly said.

That number includes all colleges and universities in Ontario, Nova Scotia and Quebec as well as some United States schools, he said.

Donnelly said to remember that when on break to stay in groups and stay in control.

"Spring break is spring break, it is something you'll never forget."

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## SPORTS

# Student keeps busy with sports, refereeing

By Peggy Sue Ironside

Owning and operating a sports business is something the women's soccer goaltender would like to see in her future.

Stephanie Den Hann, 26, is a second-year marketing student at Conestoga College and after graduating in 1998 she said she hopes to get into sports marketing.

Den Hann said

she would like to work for a national sporting company such as Adidas or Nike or Umbro. She would also like to become a national soccer referee.

"I want to stay in the sports industry and stay associated with soccer and develop something there," she said. "And then, eventually, run my own business, sports clothes and equipment."

Den Hann, originally from Guelph, started playing soccer in grade five while attending John Calvin Christian School and continued the game into her high school years at Woodland Christian High in Breslau.

When Den Hann was 19, she began playing for the Guelph Naughty Bodies, a women's recreational soccer team, which she stills plays on.

In her first year of college, Den Hann joined the varsity women's soccer team. She also became a referee last year and plays with the

men's referee team as its goalie.

"I play for three teams right now," Den Hann said.

Den Hann is very involved with sports. In between her three varsity soccer practices and games a week, she plays basketball on Wednesday and referee's soccer on Friday.

She also lifts weights year round, bikes in the summer and enjoys in-line rollerblading.

"I have to organize my time," Den Hann said. She said her time management wasn't too bad, and while laughing added, "Don't ask my teachers."

But Den Hann said with her B average last semester she feels she's doing all right.

Playing goalie is Den Hann's specialty, a position she has played since the seventh grade, and she came on the varsity team as backup goalie when she joined.

During the outdoor season this year, Den Hann played defence and said it was awesome.

"It's a totally different game

when you play out," she said. "It's mentally different to not be the last person on the floor to take the shot, to be there with the rest of your team."

The physical fitness she gained while playing defence, during the summer, got her in better shape and she joined the referee's team.

During the Christmas holidays, in 1995, Den Hann decided to shave her head just to be different and has since keep it in a crew-cut style.

It's the 90s, she said, some women have short hair.

"I get looked at all the time in washrooms," she said. During a recent tournament at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre, Den Hann said a woman asked her to leave the changeroom because she thought Den Hann was a guy.

Den Hann said her Condor teammates are a positive bunch. "We're all insane," she said. "And that's okay."



## Conestoga loses to Cambrian

By Peggy Sue Ironside

The hockey Condors lost 8-3 in the Feb. 15 hockey game when they visited the Cambrian Golden Shield.

Tony Martindale, the Condor coach, said Conestoga played a good team game in the first period and managed not to give up a goal until the last minute of the first.

Cambrian scored with 20 seconds left in the first period making the score 1-0.

The Condors went into the second period with good momentum, Martindale said, wanting to continue playing a good defensive game.

Cambrian scored the next two goals making the score 3-0.

Condor forward Trevor Uhrig scored the first goal of the game for Conestoga making the score 3-1.

After Cambrian scored again, making the score 4-1, Condor defenceman Dale Henry shot the puck past the Shield's goalie, bringing the score to 4-2.

The first goal in the third period was by Shield, making the score 5-2.

Scoring. Conestoga's third goal of the evening was forward Jeff Schmidt bringing the score to 5-3.

Cambrian scored three more goals against Conestoga, one in an empty net, winning the game 8-3.

## Condors play well against Fleming Auks

By Peggy Sue Ironside

The Condor goalie played his best game of the year when Conestoga visited the Sir Sandford Fleming Auks on Feb. 13, said the college hockey coach.

Tony Martindale said goalie Darryl Whyte played the entire action-packed game making a number of timely saves in the 2-1 loss to Fleming.

The whole game was good, said Martindale, both the Condors and Auks played well.

He said the Auks goalie made some huge saves for his team.

Both the first and second periods

were scoreless, Martindale said.

The Auks scored the first goal in the third period making the score 1-0.

Condor forward Jeff Schmidt scored Conestoga's goal soon after making the game 1-1.

With ten minutes left in the game, the Auks scored the winning goal taking the game 2-1.

"We've had a lot of one goal games," Martindale said. "We don't have anyone who will set up and be the difference."

"You can only measure so much success on half won games," he said. "And we have yet to win a whole game."

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## CD Review

# U2's *Discotheque* breaks four-year lull

By Sara Maxim

After the culmination of 1993's *Zooropa* tour, there has been little for fans of the rock band U2 to follow — a few independent endeavors and nothing more.

However, fans have a lot to be excited about in 1997.

Starting with the radio release of the band's new single, *Discotheque*, and its video release a day later on MuchMusic, U2 has re-surfaced from its nearly four-year lull.

*Discotheque* hit the stores Feb. 4. The full album, *Pop*, is scheduled to be released March 4.

In a press release Feb. 12, U2 announced its world-wide concert tour dates. The band is scheduled to play in Toronto at the Skydome on Oct. 26 and 27. Tickets for the first show are already sold out. Tickets for the second show went on sale Feb. 22.

In a little over a month, U2 fans were handed a new single, a new album and a world-wide tour.

So, will the new album please its fans? If *Discotheque* is any indication of the rest of the album, then yes it will.

Struggling to find a spot for themselves in the '90s, among the often morose alternative and the bass-thumping vibes of techno and dance music, the "band of the '80s" seems to have gone back in time and revived the '70s disco era — mixed with a stiff shot of '90s industrial.

The CD single release of *Discotheque* features four mixes of the song. Produced and mixed with the help of DJ Howie B., who has remixed cuts for Everything but the Girl and Bjork, these re-mixes offer bass that will do in anything but the best home stereo or car systems.

Track 5, the Howie B., Hairy B.

Mix, offers listeners the chance to hear Bono's voice in an entirely different pitch — a throaty rap, matched almost flawlessly by Howie B. — to Clayton's bass.

The only track on the single release that isn't a remix of *Discotheque* is track 4, *Holy Joe*, which is reminiscent of the band's earlier *Achtung Baby*. The bass is muted and Bono's tenor voice echoes across Edge's stinging electrical guitar in sultry moans.

The single bodes well for the upcoming album. *Discotheque* wasted no time making it to the charts. MuchMusic spent the entire day of the single's release playing interview clips and U2 videos.

So, whether fans like the new U2 sound or not, one thing is for sure: We're definitely going to be hearing U2 on the airwaves. ♪♪♪♪

## CD Review

# *Ixnay on the Hombre* an anthem-rock sell-out

By Bryce Wilson

When the Offspring released *Ignition* in 1992, California punk rock had yet to explode into the alternative trend that would see bands like Green Day and Rancid become household names throughout North America.

Then came the Offspring's album *Smash* and Green Day's *Dookie* and suddenly punk rock was not only popular but highly profitable.

Although many people cried "sellout" when these bands signed to major labels, their music style didn't really change from when they were still relative unknowns.

Now in 1997 comes the Offspring's newest release, *Ixnay on the Hombre*, and describing their new sound as a change is like calling Dennis Rodman a little eccentric.

The first song on the album is a disclaimer by Jello Biafra, ex-singer of the Dead Kennedy's. Although having Biafra on the album lends some sense of his anti-establishment persona to the effort, the Offspring quickly dispel any thoughts about this being anything other than a pathetic attempt at selling records, resulting in the worst album they have ever released.

Perhaps they are simply experimenting with different musical styles as the lyrics in the *Meaning of Life* suggest, "Me, I'd rather be found trying something new."

However, the result is a mid-'80s sounding anthem-rock sell-out release that falls flat on its face.

The anti-drug song, *Mota*, uses the same pause and catch-phrase technique that made *Come Out And Play* such a huge hit. However, this time around the effect is laughable at best.

The song *Me and My Old Lady* could just as easily have been on a Jane's Addiction album — and the

songs *Gone Away* and *I Choose* actually sound like they were written by Bon Jovi.

There are a few songs on the album that are quite good and *Cool to Hate* is a prime example of the music the Offspring used to produce. However, the members of the Offspring are in their mid-20s and lyrics about hating everything at highschool just seems like it's meant to target teenagers to buy their albums.

All I Want is the band's first single from the album and is quite good as well, but the very next song, *Way Down The Line*, begins with a vocal intro that sounds like the Beach Boys.

And after that comes *Don't Pick It Up*, the stupidest song the Offspring have ever written.

With lyrics like, "I saw a little kid as he walked around, he picked a candy bar up off the ground, he chomped about half then his face turned blue, turned out that candy bar was doggy-doo," how can this album ever be taken seriously.

The best track on the album isn't really even a song. It's the intermission half way through — and this album needs it.

For fans of the Offspring who enjoyed *Smash* and were waiting for this new release, try and find *Ignition* instead.

For the Offspring, the joke's over — please release the real album now. ♪

## REVIEW GUIDE

- ★★★★★ Excellent
- ★★★★ Good
- ★★★ Fair
- ★★ Poor
- ★ Garbage

## Movie Review

# *Absolute Power* lacks absolutely everything

By Tony Kobilnyk

Clint Eastwood, never content to occupy only one chair on the set of a movie, makes his way back to the big screen as the producer, director and star of *Absolute Power*.

Eastwood plays Luther Whitney, a multi-talented thief who has a knack for penetrating high-tech security systems and for concealing himself behind many disguises.

The movie opens with the 66-year-old Eastwood seated in an art gallery peering through spectacles at a portrait which he is sketching. It's obvious Eastwood is acting his age in this movie and this, along with Eastwood's performance, is really the only redeeming thing about the movie.

Eastwood is contemplating his final big heist; the robbery of one of the wealthiest men in the United States, Walter Sullivan, played by E.G. Marshall.

During the robbery he is inter-

rupted by the return of Marshall's drunk wife and her lover for the evening who happens to be Alan Richmond, the president of the United States (Gene Hackman).

The sexual chemistry of these two fails miserably as they stumble around the room in a drunken stupor.

Hackman starts to get rough with her and the two end up struggling while Eastwood watches concealed behind a two-way mirror. The struggle results in the death of Marshall's wife and brings the chief of staff, Judy Davis, into the movie.

Davis begins a cover-up of the murder while Eastwood escapes the house with a crucial piece of evidence.

Beyond this point there is no semblance of action or suspense in the movie.

Seth Frank (Ed Harris) an FBI agent investigating the crime, solicits the help of Eastwood's estranged daughter Kate (Laura

Linney) to help him locate the elusive Eastwood who is suspected of robbing the home and murdering Marshall's wife.

The remainder is a long, boring, predictable series of events where Davis and the secret service go to extreme measures to find Eastwood and silence anyone else who may know of the crime, while Eastwood struggles with his own moral dilemmas.

There is a weak attempt to create irony when we learn that Marshall is responsible for putting Hackman in the president's office, but the movie is unable to pass the feelings of the characters onto the audience.

Overall, the movie has about as much power and excitement as a cookbook.

It tries to incorporate many themes into one movie and doesn't really do any of them well.

For Eastwood fans, it's worth seeing, but save money and see it at home. ♪♪

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